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FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3297  
INFO RUEHZA/WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE  
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 4407  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0148  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0846

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SUBJECT: GOG REQUESTS SUPPORT FOR RE-ELECTION TO COMMITTEE  
FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

¶1. Embassy received a diplomatic note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs requesting USG support for the re-election of Francisco Cali Tzay as a member of the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for the period 2008-2011. Elections will be held in 2008. Embassy recommends that USG support Cali for this position.

¶2. Below is the unofficial translated text of the diplomatic note.

BEGIN TEXT

July 11, 2007

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, General Directorate of International, Multilateral, and Economic Relations, presents its compliments to the Honorable Embassy of the United States of America and has the honor of informing the Embassy that the Government of the Republic of Guatemala has decided to present the candidacy of Mr. Francisco Cali Tzay for re-election in 2008 as a member of the Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) for the period 2008-2011.

It is important to point out that Mr. Francisco Cali is a community leader who has distinguished himself by promoting and defending not only the rights of the indigenous people but also human rights at the national and international levels. As an activist, Mr. Cali knows the social reality of the native people of Guatemala and the mechanisms of the United Nations concerning UN Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. Among his professional experience, he served as Presidential Commissioner on Discrimination and Racism Against the Indigenous People in Guatemala, and currently is an active member of CERD.

The Government of Guatemala respectfully requests that the Honorable Embassy of the United States of America support the above-mentioned candidacy.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Honorable Embassy of the United States of America in Guatemala the assurances of its highest and distinguished consideration.

END TEXT.  
Lindwall